



# Pollinator Garden



Melisa Reilly  
Earth Science Teacher  
West High School, Waterloo  
George Wyth State Park, DNR

## Part I: Overview of Business

George Wyth State Park is located near Waterloo and Cedar Falls. The park has been designated as a National Urban Wildlife Sanctuary with woodland, prairies and wetlands area. Activities to do in the park include camping, hiking, biking, boating, fishing, and swimming. The park was dedicated in 1940 as "Josh Higgins Parkway". In 1956, it was renamed George Wyth Memorial State Park after a well-known Cedar Falls businessman and conservationist.

## Part II: Job Specifics

The project I am working on for my externship at George Wyth State Park is to prep and planning for a pollinator area in the park. Pollinators are also essential components of the habitats and ecosystems that many animals rely on for food and shelter. The pollinator garden is a conservation effort to help promote native pollinators that have been on decline.

Students will research soil types and which plants will be better adapted to your soil type, climate, precipitation, site drainage, sunlight, and local pollinators.

## Part III: Introduce the Problem

- We have a limited budget and want to select the plants that will be best adapted to the site we have for the pollinator garden.

## Part IV: Background

- They need to understand the soil type, climate precipitation, and site drainage.

## Part V: Business Solution

- Research on pollinator gardens and work to prep the area. Planting in the fall/spring.

## Part VI: Student Solutions

- An explanation of the site's soil characteristics and list of prairie forbs that are compatible.